

Richard Paine House
Longnook and Higgins
Hollow Roads
Truro
Barnstable County
Massachusetts

HABS No. MO-755

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PHOTOGRAPHS

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

Historic American Buildings Survey
National Park Service
Department of the Interior
Washington, D. C. 20240

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY

RICHARD PAINE HOUSE

HABS No. MA-755

Location Southeast corner of intersection of Long Nook Road and Higgins Hollow Road, Town of Truro, County of Barnstable, Massachusetts.

Present owner Mr. and Mrs. John S. Johnson, Long Nook Road, Truro, Mass.

Present occupant Mrs. and Mrs. John S. Johnson.

Present use Permanent residence.

Significance Cape Cod "house and a half" (4 bays) located within the area of the proposed Cape Cod National Seashore. Located on former stage coach line. Former post office of Truro and general store.

PART I. HISTORICAL INFORMATION

Original and subsequent owners Verbal tradition shows the Paine family as original owners, and place retained in family until 1894 when Morris family purchased it. A Dr. Abbey was owner at one time, selling to Marion Merriss in 1929 (former husband of Mrs. Johnson, present owner).

Date of erection Present owner: 1719, from information received by her from Manuel Corey, former Town Clerk of Truro.
House is dated tentatively in early 1700's.

Architect Unknown.

Builder Unknown.

Original plans None known to exist.

Alterations and additions Pantry and small east bed room partitions removed by present owner; one room added to west of house, early; modern kitchen added to this on west by present owner; chimneys rebuilt by present owner.

Historical events connected with structure Former general store and Truro Post Office was housed in the one room built onto the west of the original house. Dates unknown.

Important old views None discovered.

Sources of information Mrs. Laura Johnson, present owner.

Likely sources not yet investigated Truro Town Records; Barnstable County Records; Post Office records; old histories.

Prepared by


Charles S. Dotts, Architect
HABS Cape Cod Survey I, 8/26/60

PART II. ARCHITECTURAL INFORMATION

GENERAL STATEMENT

Architectural interest and merit From appearances, this is one of the older houses in Truro. It is a one and a half story Cape Cod "house and a half" of 4 bays. The original kitchen in the back part of the house is particularly interesting because in it are old early type "gunstock" corner posts with exposed dove tail joints at the top where the wall girts and ceiling beams tie in. Of two dozen or so houses investigated in this area, this is the first time this particular joint has been seen.

Condition of fabric Good.

THE EXTERIOR

Overall dimensions 24' x 28', approximately.

Foundations Brick.

Wall construction From size of walls, appears to be vertical plank construction with clapboards on south and shingles on other sides fastened to the planks, plastered inside. Exposure is 3" on clapboards, and 5" on shingles. House painted yellow.

Porches, stoops Brick terrace at west front of house.

Chimneys Two, one over center part of original house, and one over kitchen ell; both brick, rebuilt by present owner.

Openings - doorways and doors 6 panel rear door, modern front door.

windows and shutters 6/6 lights in wood d.h. sash, both floors.

Roof - shape, covering wood shingles, pitched and gabled roof, parallel to Long Nook Road; construction is wood trusses, heavy, about 8'-0" on center, with vertical roofing boards.

cornice, eaves Wood, box cornice, narrow eaves.

dormers None.

THE INTERIOR

Floor plans Two rooms in front, kitchen in rear, original house. Former buttery and small bedroom partitions on east of kitchen removed. One room addition to west, modern kitchen west of that. Second floor

formerly had two small bed rooms, and present owner has made one large bedroom, one small one and bath, thus rebuilding the second floor.

Stairways One, narrow and steep.

Flooring Random width pine boards.

Wall and ceiling finish Plaster and wood wainscot.

Doorways and doors 4 panel interior doors.

Trim Cornice in east front room; exposed summer beam in east room and in kitchen. Fine fireplace panel in east room.

Hardware some old, some modern.

Lighting Electric.

Heating Franklin stove, east room, kitchen fireplace.

SITE

Orientation House faces south in typical Cape Cod manner. Pleasant area of shrubbery, trees, flowers.

Enclosures None.

Outbuildings Summer kitchen about 50 feet south of house; old wooden barn about 50 yards south of house.

Walks driveways Brick walks, no driveway.

Landscaping Informal planting, very pleasant.

Prepared by Charles S. Dotts
Charles S. Dotts, Architect
HABS Cape Cod Survey I
August 26, 1960